

An update on local and township property taxes

from State Representative Jeb Bardon

Dear Friends:

I have received several phone calls, emails and letters in regard to the latest round of property tax bills in Marion County. I hope this information will help you in determining the cause of any error or increase.

Your property tax bill is based on several factors shared with other county residents, such as the public library system, poor relief, and the county hospital system. Another portion of your bill is then related to your township, including schools and government offices.

As you might know, there was an error in calculating the local homestead credit. The Department of Local Government Finance, a state agency under the direction of Governor Mitch Daniels, applied the incorrect rate for several portions of Marion County.

This error, undetected by county officials, caused an increase of up to two percent of your total tax bill. As of now, the Marion County Treasurer is asking taxpayers to pay the increased bill and receive a credit on the fall tax statement.

Most of you are noticing other increases as well. **The bulk of that increase is tied to a 165-percent rise in the tax rate for Wayne Township Government.** That causes an increase of about \$418 per year per \$100,000 of

net assessed value. Thus, a home with a net assessed value of \$85,000 will see a yearly increase of about \$355.

This increase is the result of the township moving from a volunteer fire department to a professional force. The township trustee has hired about 130 full-time firefighters.

I have detailed all of the tax rates that affect your bill on the back of this postcard. As you can see, other taxing units increased their rates as well, including the IndyGo transit service and the public library.

Please check your statement carefully to make sure you are claiming all of the deductions and credits available to you under state law. **There are several deductions and credits that can reduce your tax liability.**

The Homestead Credit, for instance, reduces the assessed value of your home by \$35,000. A mortgage exemption, meanwhile, results in a \$3,000 deduction. I urge you to contact the Marion County Auditor if you believe there are deductions or credits for which you qualify.

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns about your latest property tax bill or other matters related to state government.



Important Phone Numbers

Marion County Auditor
327-4646

Wayne Township Assessor
273-4130

Marion County Treasurer
327-4040

How to contact Rep. Bardon

Office
232-9600

Email
H25@in.gov

Remember to claim credits and deductions

Contact the County Auditor at 327-4646

- Homestead Credit
- Age 65 and Over
- WW I Veterans and Spouses
- Mortgage Exemption
- Blind or Disabled
- Disabled Veterans

Property Tax Rates

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Marion County

Your property taxes are determined by the tax rates of various government and educational units. If one of these organizations raises its rate, your taxes will rise as well. On the other hand, if one of these units lowers its tax rate, your taxes will decrease. I have listed below the rates of the government units and schools in your tax district. The average increase in the far column is based on a residential property with a net assessed value of \$100,000.

Township Government

Taxing Unit	2004	2005	% Difference	\$ Difference
Wayne	.2542	.6731	+165%	+\$418.90

Schools

Taxing Unit	2004	2005	% Difference	\$ Difference
MSD Wayne	1.7075	1.7564	+3%	+\$48.90

City / County Taxes

Taxing Unit	2004	2005	% Difference	\$ Difference
Marion County	.4129	.4163	+.82%	+\$3.40
Public Library	.0904	.0982	+9%	+\$7.80
IndyGo	.0285	.0519	+82%	+\$23.40
Health and Hospital	.2253	.2249	-0.18%	-\$0.40
Consolidated County*	.1233	.1259	+2%	+\$2.60

*Includes over 30 agencies and departments, such as parks, personnel, public works, code enforcement, animal control, engineering and dispatchers.

Rep. Jeb Bardon

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